IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPLICATION NO. 34 OF 2006

Shri Pandurang Dhondiram Kalebare. ...Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra. ...Respondent

Mr.Rajiv Patil with Mr.C.K. Pendse for Applicant.
Mr.Y.S. Shinde, APP for State.

CORAM : V.M. KANADE, J.

DATED : JANUARY 16, 2006

P.C. :-

. Heard learned Counsel for the Applicant and learned APP for the State.

. The applicant was arrested on a complaint filed at Chandgad Police Station vide C.,R.No.69/2005 for the offence punishable under Sections 467, 468 and 471 of the IPC. The applicant was working as Forest Officer and it is alleged that he had tampered with the gate pass and had permitted some persons to transport valuable forest produce in excess of what was written in the gate pass. The applicant was initially remanded to police custody. Thereafter he is now at present in judicial custody.

2. It is submitted by the learned Counsel for the applicant that the applicant has been arrested and the investigation is still going on but his presence is no longer required and the offence is pertaining to the forgery of certain receipts.

4. Learned APP, on the other hand, vehemently opposed the application for bail. He submitted that the specimen handwriting of the applicant has been forwarded to the Handwriting Expert and chargesheet has not been filed so far.

5. In my view, since the entire offence is pertaining to forgery of the gate pass and the presence of the accused is no longer required as the trial is not likely to be over by quite some time, in the circumstances, the applicant be released on bail in the sum of Rs.5,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount. He shall report to Chandgad Police Station once in a month.

. The application is allowed in the above terms.

(V.M. KANADE, J.)